

I-69 Section 6 Scoop



INDOT has Open Discussion on Land Purchases, Relocations

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) hosted two Real Estate Open Houses in Indianapolis and Martinsville in August to discuss the processes of acquisition and relocations along the I-69 Section 6 corridor.

"I personally thought that they were a success. We had a great turnout with close to 200 or more attendees at each meeting," said Todd Clift, INDOT Acquisition Delivery Manager. "The questions were wide ranging from when a decision of the actual route would be made to very detailed questions with regards to property valuations."



INDOT Real Estate staff were on hand to explain the broad scenarios of acquisition and relocations to more than 450 individuals who attended both meetings. Some discussions included explaining to property owners that in many cases only a portion of a property will be needed for I-69. Other conversations talked about if the project needs to relocate a home or business, the owners have the option of finding a suitable replacement themselves or INDOT can assist them through every step of the way.



"This was great early public involvement that provided some really good real estate information to those that may be directly affected by this project," Clift said. "Feedback from our staff was that the public was for the most part very appreciative of the information we could provide even when it was not exactly what they were hoping to hear."

INDOT has acquisition and relocation booklets that discuss the processes in greater detail at the I-69 Section 6 project office. The public is welcome to come and pick up the free booklets.



Indiana Department of Transportation I-69 Section 6 Project Office

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I-69 Section 6 Project Office Hours

The project office is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., excluding state holidays.



History Down Under: Fall Field Work on I-69



An archaeological survey crew (not with INDOT) from a prior survey near Martinsville



A projectile point that dates to approximately 6000 B.C. found near Martinsville

By: Beth McCord, Gray and Pape Heritage Management

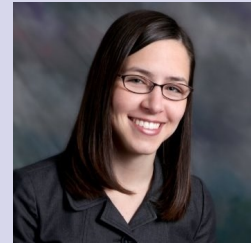
This fall archaeologists will continue the survey of the I-69 corridor. The fieldwork will consist of four to five person crews that will examine the corridor for the presence of historic Euroamerican settlement and Native American settlement that can span as far back as 10,000 years ago. The crews are looking for artifacts made from glass, ceramic, metal, bone, stone and other materials that will indicate where our predecessors were living, hunting, and gathering natural resources. The survey crews examine the surface of the ground for artifacts if they have sufficient visibility to see the soil such as plowed fields. They will also do shovel tests in areas where the soil is not visible such as pastures or woods. The shovel tests are small holes excavated approximately 12 to 16 inches deep. The excavated soil is then sifted through a screen to discover any artifacts.

The location of any artifact finds are mapped by GPS units and field notes are taken to record the size of the area, types of artifacts present, and environmental details. Artifacts are taken to a laboratory for further analysis. Sometimes the style of an artifact can indicate how old it is. Once the analysis is completed, the artifacts are returned to the landowner or if the landowner requests they are curated at a local university to be available for future researchers. The archaeologists will write a report that details what they have found and provide a recommendation for avoidance or further investigation of locations that contain information important or significant to local history. The report will be submitted to INDOT and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology.

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Project Manager's Corner

**By: Sarah Rubin,
INDOT**

I will be the first, and probably not the last, to admit that the public sector uses a lot of acronyms. While we do our best to define the acronyms before we use them, inevitably there is the potential for the same acronym to have different meanings. We have an instance of exactly this issue and want to call it out before it causes any confusion. Since October 2014, INDOT has been working on the environmental impact statement (EIS) for I-69 Section 6. This is the process that precedes the design and construction for this section of I-69. As communities along the Section 6 corridor plan for the future, several have developed economic impact studies also referred to EISes. The way to keep these separate is to remember that INDOT's EIS is corridor wide (Martinsville to Indianapolis), considers human, natural, and economic elements, and will be issued 1st Quarter 2017. Whereas the community specific EISes are economic development plans that focus on local improvement projects and locally-planned development.

